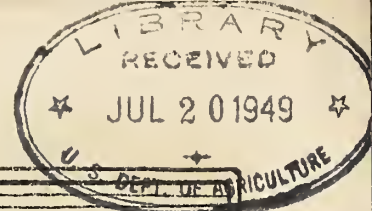


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Vol. 2, No. 10

October - 1937

### WORKING THE CORNERS

From the same State come two notable examples of the mixing of a little gray matter with brawn in prosecuting the current land negotiations campaign.

"Curly" Lund - so-called because he is as bald as the proverbial door knob - decided that there was little virtue in making stirring appeals to people to do something, unless a way were provided for them to do it. Newspaper stories in particular suffer from that lack, and while Curly figured that he was making people tree-conscious with his press releases, what he wanted was something that he could stick his teeth into, to-wit, some shelterbelt applications. So he went into the silence, and bang! came the idea. Why not incorporate an application form right with the news story? Pretty skookum, what? Instead of deciding that maybe he will look up this Forest Service place next time he goes to town - if he has time and doesn't forget it - the farmer merely takes his trusty pencil in hand, inscribes his name and address in the spaces provided, marks the location of the strip in the section plat, and the R.F.D. carrier does the rest.

The R.F.D. carrier will do even more if given half a chance. Straw-boss Leo McManus, also of South Dakota - those boys up there must have had a good lightning rod agent instructing them at some time - decided to let the rural mail carrier in southern Hanson County do most of his negotiation work for him. It developed that this carrier is a thirty-third degree tree fan anyway, and he took to the idea like a pup to gravy. It was purely a labor of love with him, though perhaps he envisioned future generations of mail carriers rolling along tree-embowered roads instead of in the broiling sun. In any event, he "sold" practically every resident landowner along his route, helping them to fill out the application form and then seeing that it got back to McManus.

That, I submit, is using the cranial eminence for something other than a support for the ears. But there is also another element involved. Doubtless it took some little selling to convince the newspaper editors that their news columns are a proper place for us to do our advertising, and certainly that mail carrier did no begging for the privilege of laboring in our vineyard. Ideas plus execution are what make the wheels go 'round.

- E. L. Perry, R.O.

## SHELTERBELTS DO THEIR STUFF IN EXHIBITS

Oklahoma has cooperated with the State Forest Service in putting on exhibits at the State Fairs, which were held at Tulsa from September 18 to 25, and at Muskogee from October 2 to 9. An exhibit was also put on at the Harmon County Fair, held at Hollis October 7, 8 and 9.

With the aid of two electric fans, two miniature windmills, a windbreak of two-year old cedars and a couple of yards of blow-sand, we were able to put on a convincing demonstration of the value of a shelterbelt in retarding wind velocity. The cedar shelterbelt was so effective that we had difficulty in getting enough wind through it to turn the windmill on the protected farm, but this later proved to be of advantage in convincing the farmers of the value of the shelterbelts, since we were able to start or stop the windmill by moving the fan about five inches.

Nurseryman Byars beautified the protected farm by installing a Bermuda grass lawn and pasture. He insisted on having a real live row crop and produced one by planting several rows of radish seed. Luckily the fair ended before it became necessary to mow the radishes to keep them from screening the rest of the exhibit.

Spectators at our exhibit averaged 3,000 daily at the State Fairs, and 780 at the County Fair. Much favorable comment was heard, and we feel that these exhibits accomplished a great deal in convincing the public that the Plains country needs shelterbelt protection.

- A. N. Butler, Okla.

## GROWING TREES ON HEAVY SOILS

The evidence continues to accumulate that lister-damming is going to be probably our most important aid in successfully raising trees on the heavier soil types and in the more arid areas.

The July issue of PLAINS FORESTER contained an article on "Lister-Damming for Shelterbelts," mentioning the Vertis Swarner tree strip. The Swarner strip is in an area where every bit of precipitation must be utilized. However, the precipitation in this area seldom falls slowly enough so as to be absorbed by the heavier soils - rather the rule is to have short downpours during which time most of the precipitation will run off "down to the sea."

To solve this problem, Mr. Swarner has rigged up a two-row lister (14" bottoms) with John Deere Peacock Damming Lister Attachments, with a 5'6" spread which enables him to go between 8' rows.

Since the above-mentioned article was written, three rains have fallen: August 20,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ "; September 4,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "; September 13,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". By strategic and timely use of the lister dammer, two of these rains were caught 100%; only one, the downpour of August 20, fell in such a torrent that it broke through many of the dams. Even in this case it was estimated that 2" of the rainfall was retained. It is Mr. Swarner's opinion that any 2" rain, providing it does not fall too fast, will remain in the dams.

At the time of writing there is "no bottom" to the moisture on the Swarner strip, while on nearby cultivated land, the moisture is readily reached by digging.



By the alternate use of the lister dammer and spring-tooth harrow, Mr. Swarner has raised a strip of trees on a difficult site which compares favorably with those on the most favorable sites under ideal conditions. It is my opinion that lister damming very generally offers a solution for the problem of growing trees on the most difficult sites.

- Karl F. Ziegler, Kans.

#### MINOT DISTRICT RUNNING IN HIGH

The Minot District came into existence when the former Shelterbelt Zone was discontinued as a result of the passage of the Farm Forestry Bill. A large number of farmstead plantings have been made in the Minot vicinity during the past comparatively few years, although there are no examples of shelterbelt plantings.

The work plan as outlined in the August issue of PLAINS FORESTER has been followed to the letter. The results are gratifying. Soon after the office opened here in August and the County Agent had become enthused over the program, a transfer of County Agents was made. However, the new County Agent is equally as enthusiastic for it.

The Chamber of Commerce is especially active, and splendid cooperation has been received from their organization. The newspapers have given us some fine publicity, and editorial comment on the program in general.

Since this office was first opened the middle of August, some twelve meetings have been held throughout Ward County. These meetings have followed up the newspaper publicity and are the means of securing applications. There appears to be no better way in which the farmer can be met on his own ground, so to speak, than through an informal discussion at group meetings for township members. Splendid support and cooperation has been received from the Farmers Union Locals. Participating in their meetings to explain our program has resulted in a large number of applications.

Besides land negotiation, the Minot District is engaged in collecting Russian olive seed. Collection began on September 27 with 1,000 pounds as the goal. There is a race on between the squirrels, birds, and the Forest Service to see who can collect the most seed. So far the squirrels and birds are ahead.

- E. C. Wilbur, N.Dak.

#### THE TREES SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Recently Garth Champagne and Floyd Houghland conducted a demonstration trip through the shelterbelt strips around Neligh and Orchard, Nebraska. Included in the party of 70 making the tour was Mr. Crullen, editor of the Ewing Advocate.

In a footnote to the demonstration trip report, Champagne says, "Mr. Crullen has never been very well sold on the Project, and in the past has not printed the news items which we supplied his paper. Upon leaving the group he apologized for not having used them, and asked that he be supplied with similar material in the future. He said that he was very much impressed with the work and would give it his support in the future."

## SOUTH DAKOTA HAS GOOD MEETING

On October 5 Mr. A. L. Ford, our congenial State Director, was host and Master of Ceremonies at a training meeting held at Brookings for all of the South Dakota supervisory personnel from the various nurseries and field districts.

A group of 12 men piled into a truck at Mitchell at 7:00 A.M. on Tuesday, in order to be at Brookings to start the school at 10:00 A.M., and it is evident that there must have been some activity in other districts during the wee small hours that morning, since our aggregation proved to be a small one in comparison to some.

The morning was spent in acquainting the "planting" personnel with the Midway Nursery, and with the digging, grading, tying, and other nursery activities. A short session on the identification of species proved to be not only interesting and educational, but even downright embarrassing to some of the "well-reads."

A 12:00 o'clock luncheon, consisting of hot dogs, coffee and doughnuts, was provided by the State Director, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance to the extent of at least a dozen dogs, with a corresponding amount of coffee and sinkers, per man.

While most of us were attempting to recuperate from an overdose of hot dogs, some of the more ambitious of the boys engaged in a tug-of-war, during which operation the Mitchell gang did no small amount of fall plowing at the expense of the Huron boys. In the feature attraction of the recreational activities, however, Pierce applied his famous "elbow hold" to the hook end of a log chain, and he and Arnold took advantage of Lund and Palmer when Lund lost his toe-hold.

The afternoon was spent at the Brookings Nursery in heeling-in the nursery stock in temporary beds, and in a demonstration of the planting technique for the nurseryman.

After the field activities were completed, the boys spent some time inspecting the State Office before boarding their GMC Limited enroute homeward.

The meeting was, without doubt, one of the best that we have had in South Dakota, and it is to be hoped that additional meetings can be arranged to better coordinate the work of the various groups in the organization.

- Elmer J. Lund, S.Dak.
- Earl J. Pierce, S.Dak.

### Added Notes on This Meeting by the State Director

This meeting of the nurserymen and planting personnel proved a real solution to a problem that has given us considerable concern. It was Pfaender's original idea.

We have felt that our planting and nursery set-ups have been too far apart. When the nurserymen learn that the planting people are complaining about long side roots, they immediately get the impression they are too "finicky." On the other hand, when the nursery people criticize the planting



set-up for this reason and that, they are immediately classed as narrow-minded by the planters. This situation stimulates a feeling between the two groups that is not healthy.

In this meeting we got the two groups together and each got a good look at the other fellow's job. The result was that a lot of things that have happened in the past which many were wondering about were answered through actual demonstration. This one get-together has made a big difference in this situation already. I think it's good stuff, and we plan to carry it further.

- A. L. Ford, S.Dak.

#### NOW WHAT ON EARTH WOULD THEY BE MUTTERING ABOUT?

Recently Texas sent out letters to all cooperators requesting that they make survival counts on their strips so that we might have the information for use in planning our replanting work.

One of the 1937 cooperators near Paducah reported that he had "plenty" tamarix left, an 83% survival in ailanthus, about an 85% survival in mulberry and Chinese elm, and a 93% survival in honeylocust and cottonwood. In addition he made the following statement: "I have the finest shelterbelt strip I have seen in this country. My trees are  $5\frac{1}{2}$  months old; some of my cottonwoods are eight feet high, some elms are six feet high. I would not take \$300 for my timber."

All of the Texas cooperators, it would seem, are striving hard to produce a second Charlie McCarthy. As soon as one of the trees is heard talking, the Regional Office and other five States will be notified immediately. Although there are no indications yet of any "murmuring pines and hemlocks," there does seem to be evidence of some muttering cottonwoods. We shall see.

- C. M. Alexander, Tex.

#### A DOUBLE-DUTY SHELTERBELT

A. H. Williams, farmer near Westhope in Bottineau County, has a novel method of solving the problem of stock watering. He has no well on his place.

In the Spring of 1935 the Forest Service planted a shelterbelt on his farm. He supervised the planting himself. The belt is nearly one-half mile long, running east and west. On the west side it forms an "L" to south. In 1936 Mr. Williams noticed how the belt, small as it was, collected a good bit of snow. Noticing that drainage ran slightly toward the "L" in the belt, he rounded up a fresno and dug a pit. During 1937 the accumulated snow plus the rains received have kept a supply of water there all summer.

Farmer Williams is an excellent forester, though professing ignorance of the technique. He keeps his grove fenced and pumps the water to a trough outside for the contented cows that now have both water and the protection of the grove.

As a result of this man's excellent cultivation and care, his trees range from 12 to 16 feet in height. His survival was better than 99 percent. Williams set out some trees himself in 1931 which are now 25 to 30 feet tall. He says his wife moves most of her daily tasks into the shade of his grove.

- L. A. Williams, N.Dak.

## COMPUTING NURSERY ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS

At first I was undecided about the title of this paper. It might have been "We'll Have to Come to It" or "If We Want Premium Grade Stock."

The point I want to bring out is this: In South Dakota, and to a certain extent in some of the other States, we must plan on growing a number of our species in our nurseries as two-year stock if we want premium grade stock at the lowest prices.

In the "S-Seed-South Dakota" letter from the Regional Office of July 9, 1937, we were informed of the seed quotas we were to collect based on the annual nursery production schedule of usable seedlings. These annual requirements by species are shown in the first column of figures in M's on the following table. We have excluded in this table our cottonwood wilding requirements, but have added 100 M's of minor species to be used in experimental work.

### ANNUAL NURSERY ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Species by Groups	Annual Requirements in M's	Expected Production In M's per A.		Acres Required Each Year for		Total Nursery Acres Required
		1st Yr.	2d Yr.	1st Yr.	2d Yr.	
<u>One-Year Species</u>						
Box elder	940	125		7.52		7.52
Chinese elm	1715	125		13.72		13.72
Plum	282	125		2.256		2.256
Russian olive	1305	125		10.44		10.44
<u>One- &amp; Two-Yr. Species</u>						
Ash	3212	25	100	25.696	25.696	51.392
American elm	1240	25	100	9.92	9.92	19.84
Hackberry	768	30	70	7.68	7.68	15.36
Caragana	1587	25	100	11.96	11.96	23.92
Chokecherry	282	50	75	2.256	2.256	4.512
Honeysuckle	375	25	100	3.00	3.00	6.00
<u>Pure Two-Yr. Species</u>						
Oak	468		100	4.68	4.68	9.36
Lilac	375		100	3.75	3.75	7.50
Minor Species	100		100	1.00	1.00	2.00
<hr/>						
TOTALS	11649			103.878	69.942	173.820

In order to compute the acreage required in the nurseries each year for each species, we must first show what the normal expected production of usable seedlings will be in the three groups as listed.

The first group includes the species which normally will produce usable seedlings in one year. The second group includes those species which will



produce from 25 to 50 M's of usable stock the first year but which warrant carrying over as two-year undercut seedlings to get the most stock at the lowest cost per M. In this group the M's of usable stock produced the first year may vary up or down from the figures given, but the total production for the two years will be about as shown. The third group of "Pure Two-Year Species" are allowed to grow into two-year stock without removing any seedlings at the end of the first year. However, the oak is to be undercut at the end of the first year.

Computing the required acreages for the "One Year" and "Pure Two-Year" species is simple and self-explanatory. However, to compute acreages for the second group, i.e. those that are to be undercut at the end of the first year, usable stock pulled and the balance to be left to grow into two-year stock, a formula had to be worked out as follows:

If  
X = number of acres to be sown each year  
a = number of M's to be pulled the first year  
b = number of M's to be pulled the second year  
c = number of M's required each year

Then 
$$X = \frac{c}{a + b}$$

For example in the case of ash we have:

$$X = \frac{3212}{25 + 100} \text{ or } 25.696 \text{ acres}$$

Proof: 25.696 acres to yield 25 M's first year or 642.4 M's  
and 25.696 acres to yield 100 M's second year or 2569.6 M's

Total = 3.212 M's

The acreage for each of the "One- and Two-Year Species" was worked out according to this formula, showing the number of acres to be sown each year, with the same acreage in two-year stock each year.

The last column shows the number of acres required for each species each year in order to supply the planting crews with the required premium-grade stock each year.

For conifers a similar set of figures can be compiled basing acreages on a three-year program for 2-1 or 1-2 stock, including the seedbed acreage and transplant bed acreages required.

In South Dakota the present plans call for two nurseries next year, Farm Island with 47.75 net acres and Sioux Falls with 47.54 net acres, or a total of 95.29 acres.

To produce the annual stock requirements we will need 173.82 acres as shown in the table or an addition of 78.53 acres. Here is food for thought! Or what is wrong with my figures?

- Max Pfaender, S.Dak.

## WE GET OUR PICTURE IN THE PAPER

Recently a full page of Kansas shelterbelt pictures from the Philadelphia Inquirer was sent to this office by Foreman Ray Dawson, located at Sylvia.

Curious to learn how such a big-town newspaper had found its way into such a small town, we asked Dawson to explain. He had the following to tell:

"I had parked the Government pick-up in front of the post office and had gone in to get the mail. When I came out, a large car with seven persons in it had pulled up beside my car and they were pointing at the insignia on the door. One of them had a rotogravure section of a newspaper containing a full page of Kansas shelterbelt pictures and asked if I was working on that Project. On learning that I was, they asked where they could see some of the tree strips, and I volunteered to show them a few. I crawled into their car and directed them to the strips owned by T. R. Withroder, E. Yust and C. C. Crandall. They could hardly believe it when they learned that those strips were planted during the past spring. They said the impression they had gotten back in Philadelphia from the newspapers and commentators was that the tree-planting project was a complete failure. They were very much impressed and said they would never have believed the Project was such a success if they hadn't seen it with their own eyes. They gave me the newspaper and before they left I told them where they could see some 1935 plantings between Sylvia and St. John along the highway. Just another case of 'seeing is believing.'"

- Karl F. Ziegler, Kans.

(The pictures were collected by the Associated Press and furnished to metropolitan papers throughout the country. It is not known how many papers used them, but so far the Washington Office has received clippings on the spread from nine papers in as many States, and with a combined circulation of nearly 2 million. It was wonderfully valuable publicity. - Ed.)

## WHAT'S THE HURRY? (By Ann Batchelder)

The thing that takes most of the joy out of life is hurry. It isn't lack of money or not being able to get to England every summer that sours our days and curdles our years. It's the everlasting hurry that bedevils us and that turns life into a nightmare that will not dissolve at our bidding.

Tearing from here to there and from this to that is the genesis of more white hairs than were ever restored in all the beauty salons in the world. No magic formula has been devised to medicine the harried soul and body that is eternally short of time. For the truth is that there is little reason for hurry in this life. We have all the time there is. We are living in eternity as much as we ever shall be. And to have the passing of time forever in our minds and dogging our frenzied footsteps is the open sesame to old age, wrinkles anent the eyes, faltering minds and troubled hearts, and a quick dive into the sere and yellow where usefulness, beauty and strength are but memories. And a lost youth is sad only because it is a mistaken notion that time has planted in our midst.

If you are fearful of not getting that assigned task done "on time," go look at the mountains. They are the product of the ages. They are those

measured, immemorial monuments to eternity, strength givers to which we lift up our eyes, and from that contemplation we lose all sight of time and its futile hounds of speed.

Only man, "drest in a little brief authority," essays to determine the length and the breadth of the years. Man, not Nature, devised the idea of hours and days and months and moments. And when the fiction was pretty generally accepted and folks assumed the yoke, things in this world became a burden instead of an ease, and the word "hurry" was born into every tongue and language. That slavery continues and will continue until some genius frees life from its infernal schedule, and we live as we were meant to live, exultant souls bathed in the limitless and the eternal.

I believe there is nothing so vastly important on this little ball spinning through space that we call earth, that it needs a stop watch kept on it. After all, it's just a journey. This living our lives. Why can't it be a leisurely one, with plenty of stopovers at those stations where we'd love so well to linger? I want to see and sense the wonder of the world, and savor the deeds and the beauty of lives lived before. The crumbs of opportunity drop from the tables of the rich in spirit and I want to gather them into baskets, lest any be lost. And then to repair to my mountains and nourish my imagination and feed my soul.

The song of the open road is in my ears and I would pause to hear its end. In my Utopia the speed limit will be reversed. The best driver will be the slowest. And the leather medal will go to the one who can teach us how to disregard "the vulgar mob of years," and catch up on our fishing. After all, what's all the rush about?

- Clipped, by Ernest Wright

#### GOOD EXHIBIT IDEA

With the present lack of "other" money it is difficult to make a creditable showing in the exhibit line in competition with other agencies who have plenty of funds for this purpose. We figured out a shelterbelt exhibit that we believe made a satisfactory showing with the expenditure of very little "other" money. This exhibit was shown at the State Fair at Huron, the Hutchinson County Fair at Tripp, and the Labor Day Celebration at Emery. It will also be shown at the Mitchell Corn Palace the last week in September.

Since the idea we used in presenting this exhibit worked out pretty well and could be used by other States, we figured it might be worth describing.

In the first place, we wanted to show actual accomplishment and not what we think ought to be done or what we are going to do. Since it is almost impossible to get large numbers of people out into our strips, we figured the next best thing would be to bring our strips in where large numbers of people would assemble.

The principal feature of this exhibit consisted of three trees cut from our strips and set up in the exhibit. These were cottonwoods, one taken from a 1935 strip (Ed Casey's at Mitchell), one from a 1936 strip (Dora Hagge's at Mitchell), and one from a 1937 strip (Huron). This showed the



three years' progress these trees made under nothing but severe drought conditions. The three-year tree had a height of approximately 20 feet and a caliper of five inches. The two-year tree was 14 feet, eight inches tall, and the one-year tree about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

This feature was supplemented by enlarged photographs on the wall which told the story of our work all the way from nurseries to three-year strips.

In order to convince people that this was not a "faked" exhibit and that the trees shown had been actually taken from our strips, enlarged photos of the strips from which the trees were cut were placed on the wall with a streamer from each tree to the picture of the actual strip from which it was taken.

We feel that this exhibit was rather convincing and actually "sold" many people who were skeptical that we are getting places and that trees can be successfully grown even under the worst drought conditions.

Applications were available at the exhibit. It is difficult to get folks to fill and map out application blanks at fairs because they are usually rushed to do everything from seeing the horse races to going down to the car for "ma" to get a bottle for the baby. Many hundreds of applications were given out at the State Fair upon request. We expect many of these to be filled out and mailed to us when the folks get home.

- A. L. Ford, S.Dak.

#### "THE LORD WALKETH IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS, HIS WONDERS TO PERFORM"

A sudden and remarkable change was noted in the alignment of the trees being planted by a certain Sambo on the shelterbelts in Texas. Formerly he had always planted a very crooked row with many trees out of line. Now every tree was exactly in line.

Sambo's immediate Boss was asked by the Inspector the reason for this remarkable improvement. "Well, suh," his boss declared, "I lay it to jest pure doggone laziness." "Laziness?" questioned the Inspector. "You mean to tell me that Sambo's care in keeping his row perfectly straight may be attributed to laziness? That's impossible." "Well, it's like this," said the Boss, "Sambo found out that when he planted a crooked row he had to plant more trees than his pardner who planted a straight row. Now he takes great pains to keep his row straight so he will not have a single extra tree to plant."

- W. E. Webb, Tex.

#### "THIEVES THAT STEAL UP IN THE NIGHT"

We have all heard of them, but seldom meet them face to face. But we have found a lot of them in our shelterbelt strips this year. Where? Mostly in tree rows and they were weeds about three or four inches high, and we looked at them and said, "Oh, they are only small weeds, not yet large enough to harm the trees at all." Then we found ourselves very busy at something else for ten days or two weeks, until one day thinking maybe John Smith's strip needed cultivating, we drove back and lo! those little harmless weeds were monsters of three or four feet, which had already stolen that badly needed soil moisture, and boy! did we work and sweat to get the strip cleaned up, swearing, I hope, "Never again!"

- Henry L. Lobenstein, R.O.

### GRAIN BINDER TOPS SEEDLINGS

At the Manhattan Nursery we like using the power take-off grain binder, cutting a 10-foot swath for topping back seedling stock. We use the John Deere Tractor and easily cut 10 acres per day, which could probably be increased if the binder was equipped with rubber tires and the platform wheel was adjustable for different width rows.

The binder offers the following advantages over the mower previously used:

1. It cuts a more even height regardless of the position of the tractor.
2. The height of cut is easily adjustable in the field. Minor adjustments may be made from the binder while the machine is moving by tipping the platform.
3. It binds the tops into bundles and dumps them into windrows which can usually be located at the end of the plot where they can be most economically picked up.
4. It is cheaper and more desirable to handle the tops in bundles.
5. By the use of pick-up guards the binder will trim many of the side branches.
6. The binder reel aids in uniform cutting.
7. The tops are cleaned up as you go so that the digger can follow immediately.
8. The binder will cut taller trees than the mower without clogging the sickle on the adjoining row of the next swath.

- R. L. Buskirk, Kans.

### WHAT SAITH THE ORACLE?

Pratt, Kansas, Nov. 23, 1966 - The first paper mill in Kansas is being constructed here. It will make paper out of waste wood in the Shelterbelt. Company officials say there will be plenty of wood for continual operations.

- Wichita Eagle (Kansas)

### : OKLAHOMA :

Ten "show-me" trips to strips and nursery have been made in the Mangum District during the last month. 531 adults and high-school boys and girls have participated in these "show-me" trips. Bankers, farmers, Chamber of Commerce officers, business men, 4-H Club members and agricultural and biology classes have been a part of the 531 attending.

Last Sunday I went to the nursery and a number of visitors stopped in during the afternoon. In random conversations with them it developed that most of them were there because the children or some friend had seen it during one of the trips and had told them about it. Visitors are always amazed at



the sight of so many young trees growing in one place, and one gentleman from Mangum said, "I am very much in favor of this program. I think it is the best thing this administration has started. I thought when you started out that you could not make trees grow where God Almighty couldn't, but you are doing it where He didn't, anyway."

- Howard Carleton

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On September 18, Mr. R. C. Lindberg, Training Supervisor for the U. S. Forest Service, Region 6, now on detail from the Washington Office, inspected the seedlings in the nursery at Mangum and the U. S. Forest Service plantings in western Oklahoma.

It was really a pleasure to show the plantings to Mr. Lindberg and recall the training school which he conducted in January 1936 at Mangum, Oklahoma.

Mr. Lindberg expressed himself as being well pleased with the progress that we had made and asked numerous questions concerning the work and the future outlook of the program, as well as making a thorough check-up as to the extent of the training as a result of his training school in 1936.

- James W. Kyle

: TEXAS :

The following is quoted from a letter received from D. D. Bowman, owner of the Bowman Nursery where we have our Plainview lease:

"Your nursery is coming along fine over here and I just want to say in passing, that we have found it a pleasure to do business with everyone that is connected with the business over here, everyone has treated us fair and square and we try to reciprocate, and we think that your nursery here has been and is an asset to our business. If we in your opinion fail to cooperate, please call our attention to it and give us a chance."

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ATTENTION, GOLFERS - Texas is wondering whether or not any of you can guess who might have sent in the following item to the "Why Don't They" Column of the American Magazine: "Put tiny meters in the handles of golf clubs to enable the player to keep track of his strokes?"

(We have a dark suspicion, amounting to a practical certainty, that the foregoing is an attempt to direct the finger of scorn toward the editor of this Journal. Time was in our hot-headed youth when we might have been lured into exhibiting a flash of anger over a detraction such as this, and we could even now retort in such a manner as to embitter its author's entire future career. But the years have taught us that the better course is to treat such defamations with dignified tolerance; to turn the other cheek, as it were. Suffice it to say, merely, that the author of that contemptible insinuation is a scurrilous liar and a pusillanimous poltroon. - Ed.)

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Cigars were in order - but as none of the State Office gang smoke cigars, Jerry compromised on a box of candy instead. The occasion? The arrival of a real Texas cowboy, Gary George Dahl, on Tuesday (Columbus Day), October 12. Columbus discovered only America - Gary George discovered the world on the same day. Mrs. Dahl and baby are fine and we expect Jerry to recover soon. He is practicing up on Prairie Melodies and should be able to quiet the herd when his night wrangling duties begin.



Texas received the word that its planting mileage quota was increased to 900 miles, about like the father of six kids would the announcement that triplets had arrived. We thought we had our hands full already, but we intend to try and take care of all of them some way.

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On his recent trip to Oklahoma and Texas, G. D. (Jerry) Cook was accompanied among others by Jack Nelson. Jack must have left in a hurry because at Childress, Texas he ran short of cash. Rather than embarrass Jack by offering him a loan, the kind-hearted Acting Director for Texas promoted a short session of the national indoor sport, after which Texas and not Oklahoma needed the loan. Jack bought breakfast anyway, so it wasn't a total loss.

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W. B. I. dropped in for the working week-end. Wonder if we could get this man down on detail with the other Northern men. His Southern drawl and Northern energy would be a great help?

### : KANSAS :

An analysis of the tentative A.C.P. docket for 1938 reveals that there is a strong possibility that all plantings made prior to January 1, 1938, as well as those plantings made in 1938 can be cultivated by the farmer under the 1938 A.C.P., and that such cultivation will be of direct benefit to him in permitting him to earn the money set up for the soil-building goal. While a lengthy explanation of the procedure as now contained in the 1938 program would be necessary to clearly bring out the important phases of the program, suffice it to say that for each acre of trees which a farmer cultivates he will draw \$4.00 in payment.

It is proposed that one docket cover the entire United States, and that regional dockets will be prepared under the national docket, and that state dockets will be prepared under the regional dockets. Since there is one national docket, it is believed that the program will be much more uniform between the regions and between the states than it has been in previous years. This provision now included in the 1938 docket will have important advantages to the Prairie States Forestry Project and full consideration of this advantage will need to be given in preparing for the cultivation work in the coming season.

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Mr. C. C. Graham and Mr. Theodore C. Stebbins have been selected for the position of Supervisory Strawboss to assist at the Manhattan and Hutchinson Nurseries, respectively. Both of these men served on the 1937 Range Conservation Program, and are graduates of Kansas State College. Nursery digging operations will begin in Kansas on October 19.

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The Kansas Unit reported in the September issue of PLAINS FORESTER that a common grain binder was going to be tested out in the nurseries this fall in an effort to adapt it to the job of topping the seedlings in the nursery prior to digging. A ten-foot power take-off binder was secured at the Manhattan Nursery and has been used very successfully in accomplishing this topping job. The job accomplished with this grain binder at this nursery was satisfactory. All of the trees are topped at a uniform height and the job can be done quickly with this kind of tool. A few branches on some of the species are so located on some of the trees in the row so that they are not reached with the sickle. Special pick-up guards on the binder will overcome some of this difficulty.

Mr. Robert A. Dellberg of Kingman, Kansas, and Miss Rose Peterson of Holdrege, Nebraska, were married at Holdrege on October 2. Mr. Dellberg is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, and is now in charge of the Kingman District in this State. Mr. and Mrs. Dellberg witnessed the Nebraska-Minnesota football game that afternoon, and if the treatment Nebraska afforded Minnesota is any indicator of future events, well, we hate to go any further on that line of reasoning. Mr. and Mrs. Dellberg are at home in Kingman. The entire staff joins in extending best wishes and congratulations to these young people.

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Mr. Harry P. Rigdon has resigned his position with the Forest Service, effective September 15, to accept a position as Extension Forester in the Department of Forestry, Oklahoma State Planning Board, with headquarters in the State Capitol Building at Oklahoma City. Mr. Rigdon has charge of nursery production and tree distribution under the Clarke-McNary plan and the educational program provided under that law.

Mr. Rigdon was transferred to the Kansas Unit of the Forest Service from the Regional Office in January 1936 as Chief Nurseryman. Under his supervision some 10 million seedling trees were produced for planting on the farms of Kansas. Duties previously handled by Mr. Rigdon will be taken over by Mr. Baxter, and greater responsibility placed on the two Nurserymen, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Buskirk.

: NEBRASKA :

Digging operations got under way at the North Platte Nursery the last week in September. Wm. Moffet, Nurseryman in charge, started pulling and grading osage orange seedlings, which for the time being are stored in pits to sweat off the foliage.

The two-row digger recently designed at this nursery by Timber Management was working satisfactorily, but in the heavier soil was just a little too much for the M.M. tractor. The side cutter knives were not being used, as the seedlings had comparatively few long lateral roots.

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Lands negotiations work in Nebraska is fairly well under way with about 50 miles of strip already accepted for planting. No action has yet been taken on applications for an additional 225 miles.

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We now have time allotted on three radio stations for weekly broadcasts. The broadcasts so far have been favorably received and we anticipate further favorable response as the programs continue.

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Last spring over one-half million cottonwood seedlings were planted in Nebraska by the Forest Service. The cottonwood is generally recognized as a rapid-growing tree, reaching "log" size at an age of 25 to 50 years. Today an Omaha box factory is offering \$14 to \$15 per thousand board feet for cottonwood logs delivered at the factory. Will this add up?

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Carl Taylor says: "If the 9,590,000 trees now growing at the Fremont Nursery were planted a rod apart in single row, it would reach around the earth, with enough left over to plant a similar row across the United States from east to west."



: SOUTH DAKOTA :

During August Mr. Kirk Fox, editor of "Successful Farming" at Des Moines, Iowa, the largest farm paper in the country, paid this Unit a visit. Bob Rice of the Mitchell District was assigned to show him some of our work. After his visit Bob received the following letter from Mr. Fox:

"Dear Mr. Rice"

"Our pleasant forenoon together keeps recurring to memory. Rest assured that you did an effective job selling me on the work you and your associates are doing.

"I enclose the successful pictures I took during my visit. I am taking the liberty of mailing you our September issue of Successful Farming so that you may see the pictures I told you about.

"Again, many thanks for the courtesy and best wishes for your success. You are engaged in a splendid demonstration which I hope may be copied over a great area."

"Very truly yours,

Kirk Fox, Editor Successful Farming"

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Mr. Shaffer, one of the Forest Service photographers from the Washington Office, spent four and a half days in South Dakota in mid-September taking photographs of our work and accomplishments. Approximately 75 exposures were made in the Mitchell and Aberdeen areas. He appeared greatly impressed with the work and believes he obtained many pictures that will be of outstanding value to the Project later on.

We cooperated with him to the extent of our ability in getting pictures containing the human interest element. We had cooperators pose for him in their strips with everything from hoes to tractors, and from dogs to babies. We held watermelon feeds and picnic lunches in the shade of strips. We built towers for him to get up high and dug holes for him to get down low. We wanted good pictures and we spared no effort in assisting him to get what he wanted.

: REGIONAL OFFICE :

Bill Maynard left the organization on October 20, after three years' service, to take up work with a commercial firm. We are very sorry to lose Bill, though glad of the opportunity that has been presented him, and our very best wishes go with him. For the present he will be located in or around Lincoln, so we hope we will still be seeing him often.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you notice the girls getting very svelt, it's because they are really taking bowling seriously; so much so that they have organized two teams and compete each Thursday at 5:00 P.M. The winning team at the end of a yet undetermined period - if we last that long - will be treated to a party by the losers.

\*\*\*\*\*

This reporter's enthusiasm for news last month led her far astray, and she is just now (I hope) redeeming herself from the ostracism which descended upon her with a crash, and just managed to avert a slander suit, when she (so indiscreetly and so unwisely!) ventured to disparage the golfing proficiency of some persons. Anyhow, the lesson was well learned, and she believes that she has acquired the fundamental principles of journalism, to-wit (1) NEVER endeavor to report on golf, poker, or any other activity which attempts



to weigh the prowess of men (especially if you have to work with them every day) and about which you know nothing anyway, and (2) do not place too much trust in the veracity of the statements of certain other persons in regard to such matters, because they're probably laughing up their sleeves at you, and (3) it's safest to stick to births, marriages, visitors, and other such.

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In accordance with the newly established policy above-outlined, we are pleased to announce herein the arrival of young Steven Peterson to the fire-side of Mr. and Mrs. Harold G. Peterson (Range Management) on October 7. We neglected to inquire Steven's weight, but did learn from the father that he has red hair, blue eyes as big as paper weights, and otherwise is completely tops.

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THE GREATER HOUDINI? Pheasant hunting proved a very strenuous pastime for certain members of Fiscal Control, if we can believe what we hear. Picture a dark and dreary night, not fit for man nor beast, unending rain, and the hunters coming home from the kill. And then Bill Maynard, driving, hit a mud puddle which covered the windshield so effectively that it was necessary for him to put his head out of the door window to see the road. After proceeding thus for some miles he looked back in the car and discovered that where once had been Bob Bennett was now a gaping void. A bit goggle-eyed, we bet, he turned around and retraced his course, finally finding his partner about two miles back down the road, merrily (?) thumbing a ride. Prizes are offered, we hear, for the best solution concerning the alleged hunter's disappearance from the car.

- Lucille E. Clark, R.O.

### KIRBY RETURNS TO REGION 3

F. Lee Kirby, for the past year in charge of Range Management in the Regional Office, has returned to his post in Region 3, whence we borrowed him.

Lee expressed keen regret at the necessity for parting company with the Project, and had some mighty complimentary things to say about us, both as individuals and as an organization. And we can hand the compliment right back to him. As a hard-working, straight-thinking, conscientious executive he was admirable, but as a lovable personality he is incomparable. He and Mrs. Kirby pulled up some pretty deep roots when they left Lincoln, for all that they had been only a year in the growing, and we will be a long time adjusting ourselves to getting along without them. Notwithstanding which, the whole organization joins in wishing them the best of luck, and in assuring them that the "latchstring hangs outside" at our house.

- E.L.P.

: Dear edter:

: I done read this dern thing from kiver to kiver & I didnt see :  
: hardly nothing in it by them folks in the regal offiS. What's the :.  
: matter aint them birds doin nothin intrusting enough to write about :  
: these days? Or what? Hopeing you are the same yrs. truley :  
: Shelterbelt Sam :  
:

: (Dear Sam: I noticed the same thing about this issue, and immediately :  
: checked up to see if all the boys and girls were still with us. They're :  
: here, all right, but I guess the Muse sort of ran out on them this time. :  
: We are likely to see everything from The Higher Philosophy to light :  
: opera from them next month - I hope. - Ed.) :